Hagiography Society Newsletter

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Hagiography Society Business Meeting at Kalamazoo

Please join us for The Hagiography Society business meeting and lunch at Kalamazoo on Friday, May 13, at 11:45-1 pm in Bernhard 158. The lunch will cost $15.00. Bring your ideas for sessions for Kalamazoo 2012 and for Leeds 2012, whose general theme is “Rules to Follow [Or Not]”. We hope to include one or more sessions honoring Sherry Reames at Kalamazoo 2012. Since a number of Hagiography Society members are participating in sessions at Leeds in 2011, it also seems as if we could sponsor at least two sessions in 2012. We are not required to create sessions that fit the program theme at Leeds, but the theme might resonate with some of you. If you have session ideas for Kalamazoo and/or Leeds, and especially if you know a few people (including yourself) who might be interested in participating at either Kalamazoo or Leeds in 2012, please send your ideas to Mary Morse, Hagiography Society program chair, so that she can present them at the meeting. Mary's address is mmorse@rider.edu.

Another issue that will be discussed is the potential book series with Brepols Publishers. This series would be at no cost to the Society as a whole, and indeed, Brepols would give its members discounts on the books. It could include essays that come from conferences we have co-sponsored, critical editions, and monographs by Society members. The editorial board for the series would be chosen from the Society membership. Guy Carney of Brepols will join us for our meeting to discuss the procedures and possibilities of the series.

Finally, we are considering upgrading our website so the potential content and cost of the redesign are topics on which we would like to get feedback from our members. Come and join us in these discussions and bring your ideas!

Hagiography Society Sessions at Kalamazoo

The Hagiography Society is sponsoring five sessions this year at the 46th International Congress on Medieval Studies at Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI on May 12-15, 2011. We hope you will attend one or more panels.

FRIDAY, 10:00 AM (Bernhard 211)
Session 226: Continuity and Change in Reports of Miraculous Healing - President: Kate Greenspan (Skidmore College)
“Seeing Your Body, Changing My Mind: Narrative Healing in Later Medieval Female Saints’ Lives,” Sara Ritchey (University of Louisiana)
“Novelty and Continuity in the Language of Miraculous Healing of the French Disease at Bavarian Pilgrimage Shrines,” Steven D. Sargent (Union College)
FRIDAY, 3:30 PM (Schneider 1255)

Session 319: Miracles and Politics in the Development of Early English Saints’ Cults - President: Mary Morse (Rider University)
“Divide and Conquer: West Saxon Relics in the Reign of Cnut,” Nicole Marafioti (Trinity University)
“Measuring Time and Topography in the Cult of St. Cuthbert at Durham,” Dominic Marner (University of Guelph, Ontario)
“A Repeated Healing: St. Petroc and the Submissive Dragon,” Jacob Riyeff (University of Notre Dame)

SATURDAY, 10:00 AM (Schneider 1160)
Session 374: Translations of Relics and Cults - President: Thomas R. Liszka (Pennsylvania State University-Altoona)
“Integrating a Translated Saint: The Case of St. Maurus of Glaneufit at Fossés Abbey,” John Wickstrom (Kalamazoo College)
“How to Translate St. Nicholas’ Tooth (and Life),” Amy V. Ogden (University of Virginia)
“From Apprentice Leatherworker to Saintly Wonderworker: The Cult and Hagiography of William of Norwich,” Anne E. Bailey (University of Oxford)

SATURDAY, 3:30 PM (Valley I 102)
Session 466: Professional Hagiographers: Writers and Assemblers - President: Amy V. Ogden (University of Virginia)
“There Are Different Ways to Go Wrong: Editorial Mistakes in the Original Text of The Golden Legend,” Giovanni Paolo Maggioni (Università degli Studi del Molise)
“Goscelin of Canterbury,” Kay Slocum (Capital University)
“Medieval Education and Standards of Evidence: Three 13th-Century Hagiographers More Closely Considered,” Jeroen Laemers (University of Iowa)
Respondent: John Howe (Texas Tech University)

SUNDAY, 10:30 AM (Bernhard 159)
Session 574: Rises and/or Falls of Saints’ Cults - President: Kay Slocum (Capitol University)
“Perceptions of the Fenland Desert in the Hagiography of St. Guthlac and Their Bearing on Crowland’s Distinctive Development,” Meredith A. Bacola (Durham University)
“The Cadaver Synod and the Unmaking of Saints,” William S. Monroe (Brown University)
“Locating the Sanctity of Louis of Anjou: The Development of the Cult of a 14th-Century Franciscan Saint,” Holly J. Grieco (Siena College)

Subscription to the Listserve

Members can subscribe or unsubscribe to the Hagiography Society email listserv by sending either the message “SUBSCRIBE HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY” or “SIGNOFF HAGIOGRAPHY SOCIETY” in the body and subject line to LISTSERVE@VM.MARIST.EDU.
Other Sessions on Saints at Kalamazoo

There are a number of panels on saints and hagiography besides those sponsored by our Society at Kalamazoo this year. Here is a selection of the most relevant and full sessions on these topics.

Session 25: Late Antiquity I: Saints: Their Lives and Their Experiences
Session 46: Bohemia Sancta: The Cult of Saints in Luxemburg and Hussite Bohemia
Session 56: Re-Reading the Martyr’s Sacred Body
Session 95: Creating the Holy Dead: Sainthood in the Middle Ages
Session 202: Music and Saints
Session 441: Visions of Hagiography
Session 475: Saints Among the Troubadours
Session 498: Catherine of Siena: A Religious Life of Action
Session 534: Hagiographic Texts and Manuscripts
Session 554: Cistercian Hagiography

The Society at Leeds 2011

The Hagiography Society will be sponsoring one session, "Saints that Heal and Harm," at the International Medieval Congress in Leeds. The session, chaired by Kate Greenspan, Skidmore College, is scheduled on Tuesday 12 July from 2:45-3:45 pm. Amy Ogden, Mary Morse, and Kate will be delivering papers. Titles are "St. Nicholas as Healer and Harmer" (Amy), "Anglo-Norman Crusaders and the Childbirth Cult of SS Quiricus and Julitta (Mary), and "Salve for God's Wounds: Magdalena of Freiburg's Golden Litany."

Reminder: Society Dues and Directory Info.

This year’s membership dues are now requested. The dues form, to be sent to Amy Ogden, the secretary-treasurer, is available on the website. It is now also possible to pay via credit card on the website by using Paypal: http://www.hagiographysociety.org/dues.html

In addition, please update your information for the Society’s directory if you have not already done so. There is a questionnaire form on the website, which can be e-mailed to Amy Ogden (avon2n@virginia.edu) or printed out and mailed to her. Further information is again available on the website: http://www.hagiographysociety.org/questionnaire.html

Calls for Papers

16-18 September, 2011. The next International Anchoritic Society Conference -- and the first biennial conference to be held in the United States -- will be held at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks, North Dakota. The conference theme is liminality and the wilderness, with the keynote speaker Michael G. Sargent, Queens College/CUNY. Please send 500-750 word abstracts to IAS.UND.2010@gmail.com by June 15, 2011. Please also include a cover sheet with your name, affiliation, and contact information. While the conference theme is liminality and the wilderness, abstracts will be accepted on any aspect of the anchoritic vocation, as well as on enclosure, monasticism, and related topics, and especially explorations of little-known texts. For questions please contact Michelle M. Sauer, IAS Vice President & Conference Host, Department of English; Stop 7209, University of North Dakota, Grand Forks, ND 58202, (701) 777-2783 (michelle.m.sauer@und.edu)

Other Upcoming Conferences


Hull, England, 20-23 June 2011. “Nuns’ Literacies in Medieval Europe.” This conference is designed to bring together specialists working on diverse geographical areas to create a dialogue about the Latin and vernacular texts nuns read, wrote, and exchanged, primarily from the late eighth to the mid-sixteenth centuries. To date, there has been significant research in this field but little in the way of cross-cultural study. For this reason twenty-five international experts (from Belgium, Denmark, England, Germany, The Netherlands, New Zealand, Sweden, the United States, and Wales) will address these issues in Hull. The resulting papers from this conference will form the chapters of a published volume. For further details, please contact the organisers: Dr Veronica O’Mara, University of Hull (V.M.OMara@hull.ac.uk), Dr Virginia Blanton, University of Missouri-Kansas City (blantov@umkc.edu), and Dr Patricia Stoop, University of Antwerp (patricia.stoop@ua.ac.be).

Southampton, England, 4-6 July 2011. "Cultures, Communities and Conflicts in the Medieval Mediterranean." The aim of the conference is to highlight the extent to which the medieval Mediterranean was not just an area of conflict but also a highly permeable frontier across which people, goods and ideas crossed and influenced neighbouring cultures and societies. (http://www.soton.ac.uk/history/news/conf_2011/medieval_mediterranean.shtml)